

ARTICLE APPEARED
ON PAGE 11U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT
28 August 1978

Washington Whispers

Friends of John Connally are convinced that if Gerald Ford doesn't run for the Republican presidential nomination in 1980, he would favor the former Texas governor. But they fear Ford's own advisers would urge him to back another Texan, George Bush, former CIA chief and Republican national chairman.

The Kremlin has just about decided it cannot do serious business with the administration and is on the verge of giving up attempts to conclude a SALT pact. That's the word being put out in private by consultants to the State Department on Soviet affairs.

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South Korean influence buyer Tong-sun Park's old Washington office held some unusual furnishings when taken over by a lobby group. The new tenants found electronic listening devices, slits in a wall that could be used for concealed cameras and a desk with a secret drawer—empty.